

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. 25X

TOPIC KVP in Rathenow

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 16 July 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In mid-May 1953, KVP stationed at Plant II on Bammes Chaussee performed more intensive training activity than previously. Heavy weapons included 2 x 47-mm AT guns.                      on 19 May, trucks                                      each towing a 76.2-mm AT gun and occupied by 8 to 10 soldiers wearing red collar patches entered the plant, coming from the direction of Brandenburg.

2. On 27 April 1953, the KVP installation in former Plant II of the ROW was occupied by only 30 to 40 soldiers who wore claret service color and were engaged in preparing their quarters.                                      the unit came from Prenzlau. There was no training activity.                                      no heavy weapons or vehicles. The about 200 soldiers wearing blue collar patches previously located there moved to a wood camp near Eggesin on 20 April 1953.

3. Until 7 June, the occupation of Plant II had increased to 120 men. On 7 June, 180 soldiers armed with carbines and carrying baggage, who wore claret service color, arrived at the installation on a column of 6 IFA trucks, which towed 6 x 50-mm AT guns.                                      Residents stated that the unit came from Kietz. The officers seen with the unit wore black-bordered silver epaulets and black bordered-claret collar patches. On 8 June, a detail of 25 to 30 soldiers carrying entrenching tools left the installation on truck                                      passing through Rathenow toward Neue Schleuse. There was no training activity in the barracks area.

                     Comment. The former Rathenow Optical Works (ROW) were occupied by elements of the 2d Mechanized Regiment of the Eggesin Division until about mid-April. The new unit belongs to the so-called infantry unit                                      which was activated in April and May 1953 and was subordinate to                      Schwerin. This unit is composed of personnel detached from deactivated cadre                      in Gotha and, probably, from elements of the deactivated cadre unit in Brandenburg-Hohenstuecken.

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET/